

# CHILE



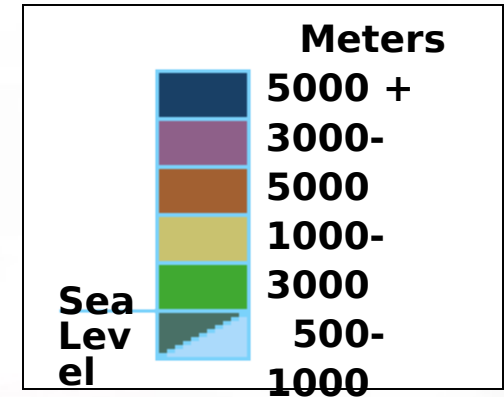
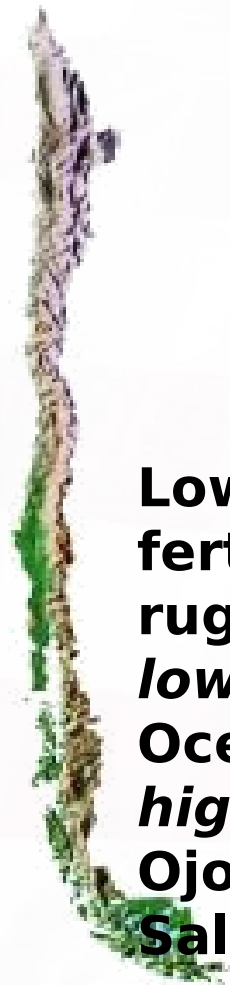
- Stable government
- Strong economy



# Chile: Environmental Issues

- Topography
- Climate

**Temperate; desert in north; Mediterranean in central region; cool and damp in south**



**Low coastal mountains; fertile central valley; rugged Andes in east**  
***lowest point:* Pacific Ocean 0 m**  
***highest point:* Nevado Ojos del Salado 6,880 m**

# Chile: Environmental Issues

- Industry
  - Mining in northern regions
    - Largest copper mine in world
- Water
  - High levels of arsenic in ground water
  - Cyanide contamination near copper industries

# Chile: Environmental Issues

- Food
  - Contaminated seafood caused by algal red tides
  - Mercury contamination of fish due to mining
- Air
  - Santiago - one of the world's most polluted cities
- Soil
  - Localized contamination near industry and waste disposal sites

# Chile: Environmental Issues

- Greatest short-term environmental health risks
  - Airborne pollutants
- Greatest long-term environmental health risks
  - Chronic ingestion of arsenic in contaminated water



# Chile: Diseases of Operational Importance

- Low risk country
- Diseases of greatest risk
  - Food- and Water-borne: bacterial diarrhea, hepatitis A

# Chile: Diseases of Operational Importance

- Diseases of potential risk
  - Food- and Water-borne: brucellosis, protozoal diarrhea, hepatitis E, typhoid/paratyphoid fever
  - Sexually transmitted: gonorrhea/chlamydia, hepatitis B, HIV/AIDS
  - Water contact: leptospirosis
  - Soil contact: hantavirus pulmonary syndrome
  - Respiratory: tuberculosis
  - Animal contact: rabies